

January 20, 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Commission Secretary, Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
445 12th Street S.W.
CY-B402
Washington, D.C. 20554
RE: Proceeding 03-16

Dear Ms. Marlene H. Dortch,

I want to express my support for SBC entry into Michigan's long distance market.

As President of the Baker College –Clinton Township campus, I have first-hand experience with the power of communications technology. Baker College has received widespread recognition for our use of communications technology – the Baker College system has one of the largest on-line student population in the country. Here at Baker College, our students have access to information, instructors and other students from around the state or world.

A key aspect of being able to utilize innovative distance learning solutions is having access to a variety of providers who can provide those services at competitive prices. Yet SBC the company with the largest communications network investment in the state – is prohibited from providing the very long distance services that make many distance learning applications possible.

As one of Michigan's largest private college, it is important that we have a full range of service options and choice of communications providers. SBC successful entry into the long distance market will lead to a more vibrant, fully competitive telecommunications industry and expand our range of communications service choices.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Torline
President
Baker College of Clinton Township
34950 Little Mack Avenue
Clinton Township, MI 48035